THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) and (b) The Central and State Governments are providing relief to survivors and victims of terrorism in the form of *ex-gratia*. Government of Jammu and Kashmir is providing *ex-gratia* to the victims of militancy for death, injury, etc. as per existing rules. The expenditure incurred by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir on this account is reimbursed to the State Government under the Scheme for reimbursement of Security Related Expenditure. The militancy affected North Eastern States are also providing *ex-gratia* grant and gratuitous relief to the victims of extremist violence. This may also include special relief provided to civilians who are affected by large scale misery resulting out of militant activities. The reimbursement is subject to the rules provided in the SRE Scheme.

Moreover, the National Foundation for Communal Harmony, an autonomous body registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 is providing assistance for physical and psychological rehabilitation of the children of victims of communal, caste and ethnic violence. The Central Government has provided the initial Corpus Fund.

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) In view of (a) and (b) above, there is no proposal to frame any legislation for the purpose.

Indians in Foreign Jails

2484. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indians imprisoned in foreign jails as on 1.12.2001;

(b) the number of prisoners in jails for more than five years; and

(c) the steps taken by Ministry with the help of External Affairs Ministry and other agencies to get them released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a)

and (b) According to the information available with the Government, at present there are 6245 Indians imprisoned in foreign jails and 205 of them are in jails for more than 5 years.

(c) As soon as the Indian Mission abroad is informed of the arrest of an Indian national, a request is made to the host Government for consular access. An official of the Mission visits the detainee to ascertain the circumstances leading to the arrest. Wherever necessary, the Mission takes up the matter with the host Government for speedy and fair trial and also for review of the sentence.

Problem of Security Lapses

2485. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the special news report "Terrorist cases Government drags it feet, eats it words" published in the Indian Express dated 25th September, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps if any, are proposed to be taken to address the problems of grave security lapses and tardy progress in corrections highlighted in the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYA SAGAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. The news-item captioned "Terrorist cases: Government drags its feet, eats its words" which appeared in "The Indian Express" in its issue dated the 25th September, 2001 has been seen by the Government.

(b) and (c) The investigation in the five cases relating to arrest of terrorists mentioned in the news item in question has been completed by Delhi Police and the cases are at present subjudice.